

*Celtis australis* (Ulmaceae), 48662. From Montevideo, Uruguay. Seeds presented by Sr. Luis Guillot, Dirección General de Paseos Públicos. The nettle tree is one of the best trees for replanting forests because of its rapid growth, even in poor and rocky soils. The value of its products (wood, leaves, and fruits) soon compensates for the expense incurred in planting and cultivating it.

In the temperate zone, to which it is best suited, the nettle tree does well in any exposure and in any soil. Its different ways of propagation allow the grower to choose the method of planting which is best adapted to the local conditions and to the soil. The tree does well in soils where other trees grow only with difficulty, and helps to cover rocky and arid ground. When grown on the pollarding system or in groups of coppice shoots, it supplies material for the manufacture of agricultural implements. Each part of the tree is of value and supplies useful material: the wood, by reason of its hardness, fine grain, delicate color, elasticity, and resistance, is excellent for turning and cabinet-making; the leaves are valuable as fodder, especially in seasons and districts in which there is a shortage of green fodder; cattle and goats willingly eat the young leaves, which when fresh contain 6.30 per cent of nitrogenous substances, 0.13 per cent of fat, and 19.69 per cent of carbohydrates. Nearly every year the nettle tree gives an abundant crop of stone fruit very rich in sugar (39.40 per cent when fully ripe), which makes a very useful foodstuff for livestock, especially in districts where it is not possible to include sugar in the rations. The kernel contains 67.10 per cent of fat, that is to say, 7.02 per cent of that of the entire fruit. When ground, the stones yield about 10 per cent of fat, but if the kernels are separated from the woody part this may amount to 60 per cent. In this case, cakes containing about 12 per cent of protein, 12.4 per cent of fat, and 48.5 per cent of nitrogen-free extract, are obtained. The oil extracted may be used for various purposes. The nettle tree should be preferred to all other trees for replanting forests, and offers means of rapidly covering bare ground with plant growth. The speedy and large remuneration promised by its products may serve as an attraction to private landowners who wish to help in the regeneration of Italian forests. (Adapted from Degli Atti M., *Anali della Regia Scuola Superiore di Agricoltura in Portici*, 2d. series, vol. 8, p. 1.)